

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 25**  
**INCIDENT NO. 2000-016**  
**DATE: August 17, 2000      TIME: 4:00 p.m.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Flooding and ground saturation – Due to a series of storms and high water tables, resulting from eight years of consecutive flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: No change since previous reports.
4. RESOURCES:  
LOCAL: No change from previous reports.  
STATE: No change from previous reports.  
FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.
5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: The North Dakota VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) met August 15 and discussed the current disaster issues, which included immediate emergency assistance and long term recovery assistance. The members reviewed the emergency response action during the June flood events and are determining response improvement measures. The formation of local VOAD organizations was also discussed.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: As of August 17, Job Service North Dakota received 3,718 claims and paid \$2,054,940 in Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefits to farmers, ranchers, farm workers, migrant workers and other self-employed individuals who have lost income because of disaster conditions. The deadline for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has been extended until August 25. The effective date for DUA claims is April 8, 2000.

The Public Assistance Program has approved 136 eligible requests for public assistance from local governments, state agencies and private, non-profit organizations. As of August 17, \$335,072 have been paid out.

As of August 16, a total of 7,184 North Dakotans registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) teleregistration center for individual assistance programs.

- The Disaster Housing Program has received 6,005 applications. To date, FEMA has paid more than \$8,670,632 in housing benefits and completed 5,963 home inspections.

- The Individual and Family Grant Program, administered by North Dakota Emergency Management, had received 2,297 applications and had approved \$1,482,583 in benefits by August 16.
  - As of August 16, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued 6,078 applications to disaster victims and has administered \$6,540,000 in loans.
7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
  8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
  9. OTHER: On August 16, the Sheridan County Emergency Manager reported that parts of Sheridan County received more than 2.5 inches of rain in a 2 hour period. The city of McClusky has the east end of the city park flooded along with two blocks of city streets. The city storm drain system is past capacity and water is draining from the streets into the park.

The Pembina County Emergency Manager reported that on August 12, a severe summer storm with high winds and heavy rains hit the county. A local elevator had 2 bins buckle, leaving them unusable at this time. Many trees were down including damage to a motor vehicle from a fallen tree. Power was out in some parts of the county for up to 7 hours. Some localized agricultural and property damages were reported.

A Federal/State Preliminary Damage Assessment is underway in the Devils Lake area (city, Ramsey County and Spirit Lake Nation) to determine the extent of losses that are potentially eligible for federal recovery assistance programs. The PDA is expected to be complete Monday, August 21. Early indications are that at least one power cooperative suffered over \$6 million in damages. Miles of transmission lines were torn down by heavy winds, breaking power poles or literally pulling them from the ground. Other damage costs to be reviewed include those for cleanup and wind damage to structures.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed a web page with cleanup and recovery information. The page is located at: <http://www.fema.gov/reg-viii/floods.htm>

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director